



MANATABA MESSENGER

A Publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes

Volume IV Issue VI

December, 2006

Vice Chairman, Council seats to be decided

Three run for Vice Chairman, 16 for three council seats in December 2 vote

Three people are seeking the office of Tribal Vice Chairman, and 16 people are running for three open Tribal Council seats in the upcoming Tribal Election.

The election will take place on Saturday, December 2, with polling locations open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The seats of Vice Chairman Russell Welsh and Councilmembers Eldred Enas, Sylvia "Cindy" Homer and Ray Aspa, Sr. are up for re-election.

See Pages 6 and 7 for statements from each of the candidates for Tribal Council.

Enas has decided to run for Vice Chairman. The candidates are:

Vice Chairman: Eldred Enas, Russell Welsh, Sr. and Edward Kennard Yava, Sr.

Tribal Council: James Russell Alcaida, Richard Marvin Armstrong, Raymond Gene Aspa, Gertrude "Sugie" Fisher, Dennis Harper, Stuart Garcia Harper, Daphne Hill-Poolaw, Sylvia "Cindy" Homer, Charmane Miller, Michaline

Miller, Virginia Marie Prieta, Merving Scott, Jr., Amanda Levias Sharpe, Dale Wayne Short, Sr., Sonia Kaye Stone, and Dennis Welsh, Jr.

The polling locations are:

DISTRICT I — Tribal Administrative Center

DISTRICT II — Headstart Valley School

After the election, on Monday, December 4, the election results will be certified by the Tribal Council at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council chambers. This meeting is open to the public.

Inauguration of new Tribal Council members will take place on January 2, 2007 at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers.

CRIT's legal win in gaming case upheld by court

Appeals court reaffirms sovereignty over inappropriate federal regulation

In a key victory for Tribal sovereignty, a federal appeals court recently upheld a legal victory earned by CRIT against the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC).

The decision that was upheld stated that the NIGC does not have the authority to regulate "Class III" gaming, such as slot machines and blackjack.

The case stemmed from NIGC's attempts to audit Class III gaming activities at the BlueWater Resort & Casino several years ago. CRIT objected to the audit and was fined by the NIGC, but a federal judge later agreed with CRIT's position that the NIGC has no legal authority over Class III gaming.

Please see RULING, Page 12

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"Patch" the deer teaches students



Patch the mule deer hangs out with her best friend, Ellie the dog, at the Ahakhav Preserve.

The Ahakhav Tribal Preserve's Education Program brought a special guest into Parker Unified School District classrooms during the month of November.

Her name is Patch, and she is a baby mule deer that has been rehabilitating at the Preserve. Patch and her caretaker, Education Coordinator Annie Morton, have visited 30 classes and over 700 students.

On October 2, field workers found a baby mule deer stranded in an empty canal ditch. Typically in this situation workers simply pull the young animals out of the ditch, place them on the side, and let them return to their mothers. However, Patch had a ruptured right eye, and if left in the wild she would have died of an infection. Instead of leaving Patch to die, Preserve staff brought her to Dr. Morrison at

Parker Animal Hospital, where they removed the remaining parts of her eye, sewed the wound shut and named her Patch.

For the next few weeks Patch recovered at the Preserve office, spending most of her days begging for bottles of milk, hiding under desks, wrestling with the dog, and running up and down the hall.

Once she was fully recovered from her injury and subsequent surgery, Patch began her forays into the local schools. She visited classes from kindergarten on up and saw students at all the district schools. Students learned the natural history of Patch and other animals at the Preserve.

In mid to late December she will leave the Preserve and go to Window Rock to be part of The Navajo Nation's Native Animal Zoo.

News & Information From Your Tribal Council



Daniel Eddy, Jr.
Chairman



Russell Welsh
Vice Chairman



Sylvia Homer
Secretary



Eldred Enas
Treasurer



Dennis Patch



Ray Aspa, Sr.



Herman "TJ"
Laffoon



Valerie Welsh-
Tahbo



Fernando "Bo"
Flores

CRIT contribution to Parker area should not be forgotten

CRIT members are generally not the kind of people who seek out accolades or recognition. Sometimes, that trait has a downside.

Every once in a while, a sentiment arises in the community that CRIT’s contribution to the Parker area is somehow lacking. It seems to happen most when the community is dealing with difficult issues that don’t have easy solutions — such as drug use and crime, two areas CRIT has made high priorities. Or, when CRIT exercises its right to levy taxes, just as thousands of other government bodies do across the country, including the Town of Parker.

So perhaps it’s a good time to remind both our members and non-members in the

community just how much of a commitment CRIT has made to the Parker area.

CRIT is one of the largest employers in the area, both of Tribal members and non-tribal members. The economic contribution of CRIT and its enterprises is significant and far-reaching.

CRIT also provides much of the land in the Parker community, so that people from all backgrounds and heritages can enjoy living in this great area. As part of that commitment, CRIT provides a great deal of the area’s infrastructure, both within the boundaries of the reservation and outside of them.

Our contributions to Parker can be seen at the community’s hospital, at its schools, and at

other public locations.

And, CRIT has been responsible for bringing in amenities like the BlueWater Resort & Casino, grocery store improvements and — very soon — a new Wal-Mart.

Our hard work to improve the Parker area for our members has had a significantly positive impact on non-members as well.

Parker is a better place to live because of the contribution of the people of the Colorado River Indian Tribes — and it becomes a better place to live all the time.

We hope that some people more often recall these contributions before they are so quick to criticize our people.

Recall against Fisher not fair to true public servant

We are fortunate enough to live in a country where we choose the people who represent us in a public vote. If we don’t like the jobs those people are doing, we have the right to seek a change — even in mid-term for local offices, through the recall process. Unfortunately, sometimes the process gets hijacked by people whose motivations are less than democratic.

That’s what is happening to La Paz County Supervisor Gene Fisher. Despite his distinguished background in public service — and a strong record of being a friend to the people of CRIT — a group tied to out-of-state interests has sought his recall. This will likely result in a special election in the Spring of 2007, with Fisher and Supervisor Cliff Edey on the ballot.

We won’t speculate on the motivations behind the group that is seeking to recall Fisher. But what we do know is that Fisher has been an excellent representative for the people of CRIT since entering public office two decades ago.

He has worked side by side with CRIT on important initiatives such as improvements to the La Paz Regional Hospital, enhancements to the area’s infrastructure and economic development on CRIT and La Paz County lands. La Paz County is in sound financial condition, and economic development opportunities continue to arise in Fisher’s district. Yet these accomplishments are not enough for the group targeting Fisher, for what appear to be narrow, selfish reasons.

It is fully within anyone’s right to instigate a recall against a public official. But when that public official has served his community so admirably, a recall isn’t the right thing to do. It should be rejected, and Supervisor Fisher should be supported so that he can continue to serve the people of La Paz County.

— Letters to the Editor —

Members should participate

I found the article by Mr. Ed Yava to be somewhat true. There are a lot of concerns on this reservation.

I am concerned about drug and alcohol related facilities. They are all in Parker. Why use Tribal money to go away to rehab if you are not going to stop the abuse?

The Tribal Council helps all of us. I have always been honest with them; likewise they have always been honest with me and my children. The issues are always the same and continuous; no food in the home, no electricity or it is getting disconnected, always in trouble with the law. We have to understand the problem is with us as individuals.

Election time is here. Get up and vote. It

would be nice to see more tribal members my age attend council meetings. The elders can only do and say so much for us. If you do not attend the meetings, your voice is one less voice heard.

I myself would like to see the candidates running for Tribal Council come and visit the people in 100 Homes, Mo-Chem and 50 homes.

Don’t worry, you will not be in any danger. I know, I live in 100 Homes. Non-tribal people come to the area and play loud music all hours of the night. If you have family members or friends who live here, come, visit peacefully and then go home.

If you are 18, get out and vote. If we all stick together, we will prosper.

Rayes Robledo
Parker

We want to hear from you!
What’s on your mind? Write us a letter!

The *Manataba Messenger* encourages letters to the editor. Share your thoughts on key issues and tell us about things the people of CRIT might find of interest. We will publish a maximum of 250 words; longer letters will be edited for length.

You may send letters to:
Route 1, Box 23-B Parker, AZ 85344
You may also e-mail letters to feedback@critonline.com

Photo contest showcases variety of images



JAMES H COOLS • DENNIS E GABBERT • MATTHEW
MILO P JOHNSON • ROBERT D JOHNSON • DONAL
DENNIS W LUGAR • EDWARD L OTT III • GARY K RAT
ROBERT R SWAN • ERNEST TATNEY Jr • TIMOTHY B C
JERRY BELEY • BILLY JOE BENNETT • WILLIAM G BENN
CLAUDE L COLLINS • JAMES L DANIEL • JAMES R DUN
JOHNNIE L GARNER • JON J GIORGIANNI • ROY L GRE
JOHN D HEFLIN • MICHAEL J HOLSTIUS • JOHN T HOI
JAY D JOHNSON • ARTHUR W REINHARDT • ALLAN C
TERRY V LEACH • WILLIE J LIGHTFORD • BRUCE B LIVIN
WILLIAM D MARTIN • ALAN L MATTHEWS • LARRY A M
CRAIG E McCORKLE • WAYNE I McDANIEL • WILLIAM J
CORDON M REEVES • PERCY JULIAN • SANFORD SHRG
JOSEPH W THOMPSON • NICHOLAS O WAGMAN • JOH
JAMES L ANTE • VALLANCE G ARKIE • ROBERT E BROWN
GEORGE A DIDASKALOU • LEWIS C GILDER • FRANCIS B
RICKY P MATTERN • JIMMY GENE MAYFIELD • HERBERT V
RAY A SCHOLD • JAMES THOMPSON • GAIL F WILSON •
JOHN R BARBOUR • JACK A BERRY • JACKLIN M BOATWRI
FLOYD E CLOSE • EARL R COBB • HAROLD C COOK • STE
FLOYD C CRAVEN • FRANKLIN D ENDICOTT • MICHAEL D
GALVIN L DUNCAN • SAMUEL L DASH Jr • CLIVE L EVANS •
THOMAS W FISHER • FERNANDO V FOOTE • TONY E GAB

Submit now, win in February

First place in the *Manataba Messenger* photo contest for December goes to Autumn Yava for her picture (above) of granddaughter Sophia Sevada fishing at the Tribal Preserve. She will receive \$100.

Second place goes to Megan LaPlante for her photo (top left) of niece Sierra Miller. LaPlante will receive \$50.

Third place goes to Leisha Krumvieda of Boston for her photo (below) of Oakley Krumvieda and Irma Medina. She will receive \$25 for her entry.

Honorable mentions go to:

- Arnold Ameelyenah (second from top, left) for his photo of great nephew Julian John Kingle-Ameelyenah with Spider Man.
- Christy Antone (second from bottom, left) for her photo of Ramona Johnson and

Robin and Artemia Anderson.

• And finally, Olga Eddy submitted a photo (bottom left) taken in 1995 at the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C. Her sister had a friend who lost a brother in the Vietnam War. His name was Vallance Arkie.

In 1995, Eddy went to Washington on business, and visited the Vietnam Memorial. The memory came back to her, and she looked up Vallance's name in the book. She found it and took a picture; Vallance's name is in the lower half of the picture.

The deadline for submissions for the February 1 issue is January 15. You must be a tribal member, and no professional portraits are eligible.

Send your picture to: *Manataba Messenger*, C/O Rose & Allyn, 7051 E. 5th Avenue Suite B, Scottsdale, AZ 85251. Or, you may just e-mail the entry to feedback@critonline.com.



New Miss CRIT enjoying experience of being royalty

18-year-old overcomes shyness to earn honor; looking forward to traveling

Ernestine Ameelyenah considers herself to be a little bit shy.

So it was a big step for her to decide to enter the Miss CRIT Pageant.



Ernestine Ameelyenah

"I wanted to do something different," she said. "I don't want to be shy. I wanted to be more outgoing, and this was a great way to do it."

Lo and behold, the recent Parker High graduate ended up earning the title of Miss CRIT, and will represent the Tribes at events all over the region for the next year.

Already in the short time she has been Miss CRIT, Ameelyenah said she has gotten to

perform traditional dances, travelled to other tribes and made a lot of new friends.

And she said it has made her glad that she overcame her shyness.

"It was scary at first, and I was very nervous being on the stage for the first time in front of everyone," she said. "But I enjoyed it."

Ameelyenah is of Navajo and Mohave descent. She had to complete all areas of the competition, including modeling traditional regalia and modern dress and demonstrating a traditional talent. Ameelyenah's talent during the talent contest portion was shaping a traditional Navajo hair bun.

The 18-year-old daughter of Derrick and Cynthia Ameelyenah said that she is still formulating her goals for her time as Miss CRIT and thinking about what she wants from the experience.

But she does know that she wants the experience to help make her more outgoing.

"I want to also do a lot of travelling and going

places," she said.

Her long-term goals are to go to Apollo College and become a dental assistant. She is currently taking classes at Arizona Western College.

In her free time, she said she enjoys spending time with her 5-month-old nephew, D'Artagnan.

She said her advice to Tribal youth would be to work hard and go after their goals.

"Follow your dreams," she said. "Stay in school. Get good grades and go to college."

The title of Junior Miss CRIT went to Jaymee Li Moore, a Mohave, Chemehuevi, and Hopi. Eight-year-old Katherine Delphina Carlyle was named the Little Miss CRIT titleholder. Katherine is Mohave and Pima.

The outgoing Miss CRIT is Susan Welsh. Junior Miss CRIT for 2005-06 was Mandy Sevade and Little Miss CRIT was NiKayla Martin.

The pageant was part of the activities for the Native American Days Celebration, held in late September and early October.

New degree program developed with AWC

Computers, health education part of new "cohort" online learning program

CRIT is working with Arizona Western College to offer online-learning Associates' Degrees to Tribal members in two beneficial subjects.

The degrees will initially include Computer Information Systems and Health Education.

The degrees will be offered as part of "cohort" programs, where students learn primarily through online classes but are encouraged to work together in groups of 5-10 as part of the learning process.

The "cohort" approach helps augment the online learning process because it provides the kind of support and structure students might find in other learning environments.

AWC will bring live instructors to the area when necessary, and facilitators will also be part of the online classes.

As part of the launch of the program, two groups of "cohorts" will be identified. One will consist of college-ready students, and the other of high school students who will begin coursework while in high school and continue on after graduation.

The program provides another option for students interested in higher education but who might not be able to access classes at AWC or other campuses.

It has been a goal of AWC to reach out to Tribal members and provide more educational opportunities to Native students. Computer Information Systems and Health Education are two areas where Native tribes could use more educated, trained professionals.

The program is also a good fit for students who have received a GED rather than a high school diploma.

For more information on the program, call (928) 669-8831.

Parade honors service of veterans



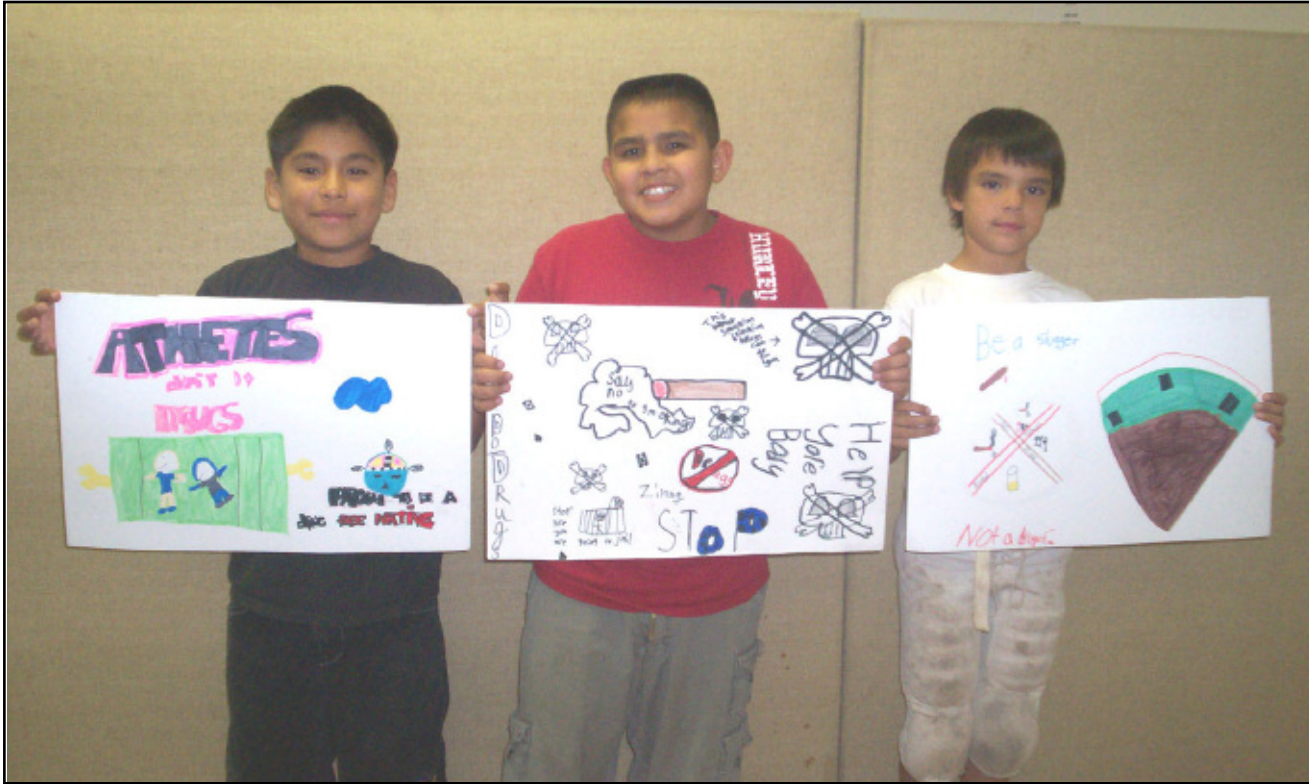
The Veterans' Day Parade made its way through the streets of Parker on November 11.

(Top) Parker Indian Health Service won the Sweepstakes Award (Right) Circle of Friends 4H Club makes their way down the route. (Bottom) American Legion Post #70 Color Guard: Eldred Enas, Clyde Short, Dale Howard and Tony G. Leivas.

Photos courtesy of Gary Schmitt



Students design anti-meth posters



CRIT Johnson O'Malley Program students showed their commitment to being drug free by making anti-meth posters at the JOM Fall Enrichment Camp. The students, all aged 6-11 years old, presented the posters at the CRIT Meth Coalition's Red Ribbon Breakfast.

The posters will be used in the coalition's anti-meth public education campaign, which will begin in the coming months.

First place went to Tylor Harper (above, left) for "Athletes Don't Do Drugs — Proud To Be a Drug Free Native." Second place went to Chris Martinez (middle) for "Help Your Body — Do Not Do Drugs." Third place went to Cody Esquerra for "Be a Slugger, Not a Drug-er."

JOM sponsoring caps and gowns

The JOM Program has announced that it will

cover the costs of the graduation cap and gown for seniors graduating from Parker High School.

To be eligible, students must have a Certificate of Indian Blood on file with the JOM office. A parent or legal guardian must also complete a JOM Student Services Request Form and provide a copy of the Josten's order form.

Families are responsible for mailing the order form directly to Josten's. Please remember to mail in order forms as soon as possible. You may not get a cap and gown if Josten's does not receive the order by February.

JOM also provides assistance with Arizona Western College registration fees (for high-school credit), intersession courses, athletic footwear and equipment, eyewear and other educational needs. For more JOM information and scheduled activities, call (928) 669-3072, or e-mail critjomprogram@hotmail.com.

Upcoming Events

Events coming to BlueWater Resort

- On January 6, 2007, Best in the Desert and Epic Racing Products announces the first race of 2007, the EPIC Racing Products "Parker 250 — A Duel in the Desert" for motorcycles and quads.

This race will be ran on a 75-mile loop, raced three times, plus an additional eight miles to the finish. The race starts in downtown Parker and finishes along the mighty Colorado River at the BlueWater Resort & Casino.

For more information on this event contact Best in the Desert at (702) 457-5775 or visit www.bith.com.

- On January 13, 2007, BlueWater Resort & Casino presents internationally known artist Don Rose and "A Tribute to the King in Blue Hawaii" with the Blue Hawaiian Dancers. The event will take place in the Bingo Concert Hall.

Don Rose has made a career portraying Elvis and has performed his tribute shows across the United States and Canada as well as in Germany and Switzerland. There will be two shows that night, with the first show at 6 p.m. and the second at 8:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$10 in advance and \$15 day-of-show.

Dig Lounge schedule

- November 29 to December 2 — Clark County Express, a five-piece band specializing in Southern and classic rock, country and dance music.

- December 6-9 — The Crush, playing hits from the 70s and 80s, classic rock, dance music, disco and alternative dance.

- December 13-16 — Swift Kick, with a female fronting a four-piece band specializing in current dance music along with selections from the 50s through 90s.

- December 20-23 — Fast Forward, a four-piece band from Southern California. Their large and extensive repertoire includes hits from classic dance tunes, 50s and 60s, disco, modern rock and alternative.

- December 27-31 — Pilot, with a female fronting a three-piece band playing Rhythm & Blues from the 50s and 60s, Top 40 dance, old school and disco. Pilot will go on at 9 p.m. on December 31 for the New Year's Eve celebration in the Dig Lounge.

Detention center community meeting

A community meeting on the planned Juvenile Detention Center will take place on January 9, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at the BlueWater Resort & Casino. Refreshments will be served.

Wal-Mart center planning in final stages

Major hurdles cleared for project; construction likely to begin in 2007

The planned Wal-Mart shopping center continues to move forward toward construction in 2007, with some major hurdles overcome in the past few months.

Wal-Mart and CRIT are finalizing lease terms for the property across from the Safeway Center on Highway 95.

Once the lease is finalized, only final development agreements are still necessary before construction can begin on the project.

The Tribal Council already has approved the elevations (building heights), Wal-Mart's plans for signage and architectural drawings for the center. The design of the store itself will be consistent with other Wal-Mart stores.

If all goes well, construction on the project will begin in the first half of 2007, and the shopping center's doors will open in late 2007 or early 2008.

As proposed, the new store will be about 100,000 square feet and include groceries and



The new Wal-Mart shopping center would include the anchor store and a number of other tenants.

general merchandise.

In addition to creating more shopping choices for area residents and tribal members, the economic impact and job creation from the shopping center will be substantial.

The new Wal-Mart store will create an estimated 200 new jobs and up to \$400,000 per year in sales tax revenue for CRIT.

The center's other stores are also expected to have a positive economic impact on the Parker and CRIT communities and generate critical new resources for Tribal members.

Announcements

The *Manataba Messenger* accepts announcements on graduations, awards, engagements, obituaries and many other special occasions and events.

To submit an announcement, see the contact information on Page 12 of this issue, or just e-mail feedback@critonline.com.

MEET THE TRIBAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Candidates for Vice Chairman and Tribal Council submitted personal statements as part of their election packets. In the interest of fairness, the *Manataba Messenger* edited these to a maximum of 400 words, and offered candidates a chance to change or modify the statements and to supply photos. The deadline was November 17.

Vice Chairman (4-year term)

Eldred Enas

Goals: Establish more harsh penalties against criminal offenders as child molesters, drug dealers. Continue with stricter laws to make parents more responsible for their children to attend school. Basically continue to serve the CRIT members.



Russell Welsh, Sr.

No statement submitted



Edward Kennard Yava, Sr.

Greetings. My name is Edward Kennard Yava, Sr. and I have resided on the Colorado River Indian Reservation most of my life. My parents are the late Albert Yava, Sr. and my mother, who just turned 90 years old, is Virginia Scott. She is the elder sister of my uncle John Scott who resides in the Parker Valley.

I attended LePera Elementary School and the Parker High School before entering the military. I am just one of the local Native Vietnam veterans and I am a proud parent of a U S Army soldier.

I have placed my candidacy for the office of Vice Chairman for this upcoming election. I did so after much self-deliberation and prayer and I am comfortable with my decision.

The office of the Vice Chairman is a challenging one. This is a position that requires much consideration and integrity for any person who wishes to undertake this position. This office is just not any ordinary position but a very integral job in the processes of Tribal government.

It is a position that the selected individual must remain focused on the preservation of our sovereignty, our tribal customs, our land and water and most importantly the people of this reservation.

My concerns are many and each is equally important. One bears a significant importance and that is the welfare of our people, from the youngest to the eldest. Leadership is important in the position of the Vice Chairman. With four distinct Tribes

residing here, leadership must not be one of individuality, but one that emphasizes the whole Nation.

The welfare of the people and the accomplishment to make a better livelihood for the Tribal Members is my mission as an effective leader. God Bless the Colorado River Indian Tribes. Thank you.

Tribal Council (4-year term, three seats available)

James R. Alcaida

I am worried about the economy of the reservation and the fact that we are not able to give our tribal members a per capita payment – being that we are one of the only tribes that have a casino and do not give per capita payments.

The Councils of past years had CRIT at the forefront of economic development and government programs. Now it seems we have lost the respect of other tribes with our ability to lead.

Throughout my past years of traveling on behalf of the tribes and personally, I've seen great things that are being accomplished by other Tribes throughout the state that have gaming. I wish that our Tribal members could reap these same benefits. I believe with hard work and dedication of our Tribal Council and Tribal Members we can achieve these accomplishments.

I don't believe it is fair that in past years our Tribal Council fought the State for us not to pay State tax and now we are taxing ourselves.

Richard Marvin Armstrong

My name is Richard Marvin Armstrong, the son of Marvin Armstrong and Cordelia Stokes-Leon-Sharp (both deceased), and grandson of James and Della Logan (also both deceased). I am a full-blooded Mohave, and of the "Quinethat" clan. I grew up predominantly with my grandparents and raised in the Parker Valley; attending the old Valley School, LePera Elementary, and Parker High School.

In retrospect, I was fortunate in being raised and growing up with my grandparents, as I had the opportunity to hear personal accounts and stories of the elder Mohave men and women and the hardships they endured in growing up in a changing society and world. Which more often than not involved the separation of family members, being forced to read and write english language, punished for talking their Mohave language, and the overall hardships and abuse encountered while in government boarding schools.

It was during this time that I had the opportunity to hear the debates (or arguments) between elder Mohave men on issues involving land allotments, water rights, education and Tribal government. And the emphasis place on maintaining ownership of our land and never "surrendering" our water rights as this would be more valuable than "gold" in the future. Also, ensuring all of the children were properly educated, as this would be critical to the survival of the tribe.

As we entered the new millennium, what

I heard about tribal issues and concerns have come to fruition. Our tribal government has "embraced" tribal gaming as an apparent "economic" savior. It is reported we have borrowed millions of dollars to keep tribal gaming operational; diverting profits from tribal farming and tribal business ventures into the casino gaming, and cutting program and public service dollars. Tribal members, including myself, have no information to substantiate what is occurring with the tribe. My primary goals are to be informed, so I can keep the tribal constituency informed, and get them involved in tribal government.

Raymond G. Aspa, Sr.

- Voted on all issues with either a yes or no.
- Participated in legal matters & attended attorney meetings.
- Testified in Washington D.C. on the National Indian Gaming Commission lawsuit.
- Participated heavily in the PCL law suit (builders of the Casino).



- Voted for the produce cooler to be built at the CRIT Farms.

- Solicited support in Phoenix and in Washington D.C. for the La Paz lands.

- Initial motion to obligate the tax revenue for the juvenile services.

- Active role player in planning the juvenile detention center to keep our kids here at home.

- Frequently attended the Methamphetamine Coalition @ DHSS.

- Voted in favor of the Tribal Council to be the first to take the new drug test.

- An employee advocate during the budget hearings.

- An active team member to strengthen the Tribes finances.

- Was appointed the election monitor during the 2004 tribal elections.

- Supported the Elders to travel to Washington D.C. to attend the National Museum of the American Indian September 21, 2004.

- Has an outstanding attendance in the special and regularly scheduled tribal council meetings.

- Active member of the Resource Development Committee, Human Resource Committee, Tribal Council Administrative Committee and Chairman of the Colorado River Residential Management Corporation.

- Attended all the Wal-Mart planning meetings in Phoenix.

- Voted to resurrect the new Manataba Messenger.

- A strong advocate for future economic development for a stronger financial stability.

- Very willing to work and have worked long hours for the tribes.

- Last but not least, I love the work and I am truly dedicated to you and the Tribes.

Gertrude "Sugie" Fisher

I am taking this opportunity to contend for the privilege of serving on the Council for CRIT. I have lived on the Colorado River Indian Reservation most of my life and would

be deeply honored to serve my community in this position.

I am blessed with two self-driven, beautiful daughters, Jackie Solper the Office Manager at the Colorado River Indian Tribes Auto Shop and Linda Sopler McPheeters an Agriculture Teacher who resides in Bakersfield California. I became a grandmother three years ago to Kaitlyn and Chas.

I have the unique background of working for the Tribes in a variety of positions. I started working with the Tribal Courts as the Court Clerk. I transferred to the Colorado River Agency then detailed to Coolidge Agency with the irrigation department. I then transferred back to the Parker area with the Department of Interior during the construction of the Parker Hydroelectric Dam at Headgate Dam. My next step was to work on my education. I attended College in Mesa Arizona and graduated with a legal secretary degree. After graduation I returned to Parker and was employed by the Tribal Prosecutor. I was recruited and worked for the Ak-Chin Indian Community also in the office of the Tribal Prosecutor. After a brief stint with the Department of the Interior, within the power department, I was appointed a two-year term as Associate Judge for the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

My objective in becoming apart of the newly elected Tribal Council is to establish a solid working relationship with the other eight Council members, to effectively and efficiently govern our community. I will stress that working together as one team for the Tribal People, for the betterment of everyone, is what needs to happen in order for our reservation to prosper.

The elders are also a concern. Our elders are living much longer and the programs that will care for them are lacking in our community. When elders reach a time in their lives where they need a caretaker, they are often sent away to nursing homes to deteriorate. I strongly believe in creating services for our elders, so they could remain in their own environment surrounded with people they love and in a place where they are familiar.

We also need to benefit from our rich natural resources and utilize these resources to benefit our people by conserving without waste.

Dennis Harper

I feel that the time has come for me to expand my involvement in tribal government and concerns of tribal members and the reservation as whole. As a father and now a grandfather, the long-awaited tradition of handing over the reins



of being responsible for the oversight of the people and the land has finally come to pass for my generation.

I believe that my employment which is one of the most volatile and dynamic departments on the CRIT reservation has tempered and groomed me to be able to

handle the tough issues that are facing the Tribe now and are looming in the near and distant future of this reservation.

The social problem issues of CRIT are so many and they lead in so many directions and have so many obvious and yet hidden symptoms; criminal activity, child issues i.e., truancy or abuse, substance abuse, etc. that it is easy to be confused when trying to seek solutions from only one perspective. In my experience in dealing with these issues I have likened it to peeling an onion there are layers upon layers that comprise the whole, each as startling and important as the first layer.

It is because of this that I feel only be being on Tribal council and being in the know and having the opportunity to see and hear all facets of the problems can anyone really study, analyze, discuss to understand and address the issues at their source. Finances are a large part of the problem but only if plans are put in place to address and focus on solutions.

Over the years of my employment there have also been some positive, challenging and rewarding experiences. I was instrumental in development and building homes on the CRIT reservation.

I have other assets that should be beneficial to the Tribe and that would be my experience in grant writing, governmental finance in which I have put together complex multi million dollar budgets for housing, I am the former Assistant Director of Employment and Training and understand fully the employment training programs on the reservation, former Vice Chairperson of the CRIT Johnson O'Malley committee, trained in Tribal Enforcement Rights, and countless hours of training in Indian housing matters.

Please vote for me and give me a chance to work for all tribal members and I will do the best job I can possibly do.

Stuart G. Harper

He has been married 38 years to his high school sweetheart Alaine, he owes all his successes to her, for being there through the good times, rough times and raising there children.

The day after graduating from Parker High School in 1969, he enlisted into the United State Army for three years. One year of that service was a tour of duty in the Republic of Vietnam servicing with the 9th infantry Division and the 25th infantry Division.

On returning back to the reservation he worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs as a truck driver and working with heavy equipment. He joined the Colorado River Indian Tribes Police Department starting out as a reserve patrolman, patrolman, Sergeant, Criminal Investigator, Lieutenant and then as Chief of Police. He was appointed by the Colorado River Indian Tribes Council to the position of Chief of Police.

As the Chief of Police, he worked with contracts and grants for the Department, he was the supervisor for over 35 police officers and detention employees. More over he promoted numerous community policing programs. He also served on boards Domestic Violence issues, Victim of Crimes issues, Child Protection issues, Narcotics Task Force, Sub-Committee on Indian Affairs with the International Chiefs of Police Association, he has assisted with the Elder's program etc; on behalf of the Tribes and within the community.

In 1994 he made a career change utilizing his professional expertise in police work to go on to the Tribal Court as a Probation Officer. At that time there was only one probation officer handling both juveniles & adults handling many clients, his experience launched a complete Probation Officer Program. Presently he is the Chief of Probation, with three probation officer's under his supervision.

As the Chief Probation Supervisor, he has worked with CRIT and community programs such as the local schools, education, social services agencies, work investment forcer program, community coordinating committee with the total community, State and Tribal Courts, Elder Committee, behavioral health services in development of youth programs as a coordinated effort.

Stuart is well aware of the social issues on the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation which no one wants to address what does the tribal budget look like, what is our action plan for the tribes for the future. My concerns are for our youth, young parents and our elders they are our future and we need to listen to them for direction and wisdom.

Daphne Hill-Poolaw



Daniel Webster said, "Justice, Sir, is the great interest of man on earth. It is the ligament which holds civilized beings and civilized nations together. Wherever her temple stands, and so long as it is duly honored, there is a foundation for social security, general happiness and the improvement and progress of our race."

Accountability, Integrity, Honesty, Commitment and Perseverance is what I possess and bring to my people. This can only come by way of knowledge of how to find and apply the law. My views and concerns have not changed since the last time I was in office. I had the privilege of serving on the tribal council several years ago and tackled challenges that could not be successful if it wasn't for those on the tribal council who believed in moving forward and not for selfish gain. The Las Paz Lands was a success which was a lengthy on-going battle for years. It was a victorious moment for the Colorado River Indian Tribes. Now, what are the plans for the hundreds of acres that we now possess? It is my hope and vision to expand tribal enterprises that would generate revenue back to the Tribes. The continuation of protecting our tribal water rights; the need to build houses not only within the boundaries of the reservation but on the California side, as well. The expansion of our farmland and growing produce. With the new cooler soon to be built should bring in new employment and revenue and the Tribe should be able to pay-off debts owed.

Most importantly, the overspending of our tribal budget. There appears to be a hold within the system. The Tribal Council took action to cease loans, outright grants, the parking of tribal vehicles used by department heads and/or tribal officials for personal use. The list goes on and on; however, several of our leaders have become deaf and blind to the actions taken which were passed by the Tribal Council themselves. The Mattel Toys is

another issue that went unresolved which involved several tribal council members. Toys that were supposed to be freely distributed to our tribal member children. This year, it looks like no toys to the Colorado River Indian Tribes children as long as those same council members remain on the seat.

If elected, I promise to serve you honestly and fervently.

Sylvia "Cindy" Homer

No statement submitted



Amanda Leivas-Sharpe

We are already six years into the new Millennium the world around us is changing and predictions of those who have passed are coming true. In order to stay up with outside society, we need to learn to function in that society. As Indian People, this is hard when we are taught that those who have come and gone have laid the path for us. What we need to build and focus on is how do we as generations of this time make changes that will benefit us in our elder years and provide for our children and grandchildren.

In running for a seat on Tribal Council, I can assure you that I will operate as I have always done and that is with an open door and an ear to listen to your concerns and issues. I cannot promise that by my being on Tribal Council that I will make many changes. What I can promise is that I will voice the issues and concerns in which you have presented to me. What we must remember is that any changes that occur happen when there is a problem when there is a quorum in favor of the motion presented. This is where you as the membership of the Colorado River Indian Tribes have any opportunity to have your voices heard by whom you put in the Tribal Council seats, so if changes is what you want, you need to take the effort and get out and vote.

Presently, I am unemployed, but those of you who know me know that when focused on making changes or having our voices be heard that I am very diligent in getting the point heard. During my employment years, I have worked with Law Enforcement, Legal Aid as Tribal Advocate, numerous years under the Department of Health & Social Services working with Behavioral Health Services, Alcohol Substance Abuse Program, Injury Prevention and Acting Social Services Manager. In the past, I have served on various committees such as Health Board, Commitment to Excellence Planning Committee and Tribal Representative, Parker Indian Rodeo Association, MISS Indian Arizona Pageant Member, PAACE, Colorado River Crisis Shelter Board Member and have volunteered whenever the need arises.

If change is what the community wants then, this is your opportunity to make change and to come out and vote on Election Day, Saturday, December 2, 2006.

Charmane Miller

I have been employed by C.R.I.T. Law & Order since 1995. In August 1998 I took the position of Chief Detention Officer which I still

hold I do enjoy my job. I feel that in my position I do contribute to the welfare of my people. I hope your feelings are the same as mine that I have done my job to the best of my ability and always with the best interest of the people.

My views are for the stronger government for the tribes, one that will be united as one, the make decision with the input of the people, as designed.

My main concerns have always been and will always be for the youth and elders of our community, for our youth and elders of our community, for our youth will one day lead and the elders have led.

I feel I am ready to take on the task of Council Member, I will work hard for a honest, strong and fair tribal government. Thank you.

Michaline Miller

I come from the Booth and Miller



Families. My father is Lloyd Miller (deceased) and my mother is Gertrude B. Van Fleet. I was raised in a family of six, four brothers and one sister, raised in a strong Christian family atmosphere. My grandparents are the late Ralph and Elizabeth (Fisher) Miller, and Reverend Randall and Mila Booth, who worked with every member of CRIT. My bloodline runs from the late Chief Irataba. My view is there just is not enough support for our membership. We need to unite and conquer our barriers together. If we are to address our other weaknesses as alcohol abuse, drug abuse, domestic abuse, etc., We need to all be made aware of matters, which concern us as people of CRIT. And if items were questionable, be able to bring matters forth for membership votings. So we can say as a people, we voted for this. When we (CRIT) went into financial burdens, more services should have immediately opened up for the membership, like the food distribution (commodities) for every tribal member. Meeting the needs of our membership FIRST, for some of the working tribal members still live payday to payday. Ceremonial items as material fabrics, should have been brought into tribal departments/ entities made available for a small financial fee or with offers to community service in lieu of payment. This is a way to accommodate grieving families during the time of their loss. To do something like this, we keep a working cycle of taking and giving back. Our CRIT flag should fly half mast whenever any CRIT member passes.

Employment on our reservation should be CRIT members FIRST.

My views and concerns are for "Uniting our Tribal Members and assisting in laying a solid foundation for future good leadership." To set the example one must be the example. Divided as we are now, we are our own barriers. If given the chance to serve, and I write serve, I believe if a person is elected to a council seat, that person is there for All CRIT Membership. Not for self-again, not for just having the title of a leader, but to stand and pull together with the CRIT membership for hopes that all will prosper, have well-being and built solid stability. CRIT Members must be a "strong combined fist," to address our old and new problems we face today.

Please see CANDIDATES, Page 11

CRIT Meth Coalition elects new leader

Bylli Esquerro, Tobacco Prevention Coordinator, was selected as the new CRIT Meth Coalition Chairperson in early November. CRIT community member Rayes Robledo selected as the coalition Vice Chairperson. Monica Martinez will remain as the CMC Secretary.

The coalition was also involved in a community readiness assessment with the Oak Council Training and Evaluation Center through Phoenix Area Indian Health Services. It included interviewing community members about the methamphetamine problem and meth education within the community. The CRIT Meth Coalition was rated as one of the best in Indian Country.

On October 27, the CRIT Meth Coalition sponsored the Red Ribbon Breakfast, which featured presentations by the coalition and the State of Arizona Department of Public Safety Meth Task Force. Approximately 135 community members attended the breakfast. Special appreciation to the following CRIT agencies for their assistance: Department of Health Services, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program, Behavioral Health Services, Johnson O'Malley Program, Child Protective Services, Big River Development, Legal Aid Department, Fire Department, Community Health Representatives, Food Distribution Program, Child Protective Services, Women, Infants and Children.

The coalition also continues to sponsor and present monthly education and awareness workshops. The following are the topics and dates for the presentations (all meetings are at 6 p.m. in Tribal Council Chambers):

- December 6 — Community Resources: A Panel Discussion
- January 10, 2007 — Effects of Methamphetamine on Babies
- February 7 — Traditional Parenting

Tax preparers recognized for service

Help CRIT members claim hundreds of thousands in refunds

On Nov. 2, the Internal Revenue Service recognized the continued efforts of the Colorado River Indian Tribes' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site staffed by Kimberly (Kim) Booth and Margaret (Margie) Poole.

Both are employees of the CRIT Employment Job Training Office and have been VITA volunteers preparing individual income tax returns since 2002.

This year, Kim and Margie, were joined by a third volunteer, Nicole Eddy, who provided assistance as a greeter and scheduled return preparation for taxpayers.

This filing season, CRIT's VITA site prepared 287 individual income tax returns, of which 271 were filed electronically.

Kim and Margie helped to determine who could claim the Earned Income Tax Credit, totaling almost \$200,000 and who could claim the Child Tax Credit, totaling almost \$140,000. Overall, the Colorado River Indian Tribes VITA site helped tribal members obtain tax refunds of almost \$500,000.

The VITA program has been around for 35 years as a result of the Tax Reform Act of 1969. In recent years, Native American communities



Kimberly Booth (left) and Margaret Poole were recognized for their service in preparing tax returns for members.

have begun participating in this program.

This has allowed free tax help to be available for tribal members and others who could not afford professional tax assistance. Tax returns are transmitted to the government electronically, which is the fastest way to receive a refund.

Over the past five years, there has been steady growth in program participation and an increase in the number of returns prepared by Native American VITA sites.

The Colorado River Indian Tribe's VITA program has been an exemplary site and could easily serve as a model for any site across the country.

CRIT Briefs

News from around the CRIT Reservation

Social Services offers assistance

The Social Services Program of the CRIT Department of Health Services has refined and expanded its available services over the recent months. Program services include adult care assistance, child assistance, homemaker services, Individual Indian Monies Account (IIM), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Family Support and Preservation, Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), general assistance, burial assistance, disaster assistance and emergency assistance.

To be eligible for assistance an applicant must be a member of a federally recognized tribe, not have sufficient resources to meet the essential need items, reside in the Parker service area and meet additional eligibility criteria for each of the specific programs.

Contact the Social Services Program at (928) 669-6093 to obtain any additional information to determine if you could be eligible for services and or assistance through any of the program components that are presently available.

Don't get stung by bees

Bees that nest in buildings, sheds, porches and other places can be a big problem, the CRIT Environmental Protection Office warns.

There is no easy or convenient way to remove unwanted bees, but homeowners can take some steps toward bee-proofing their homes:

- Remove possible nesting sites.
- Inspect outside walls and eaves of structure.
- Seal openings larger than 1/8 inch in walls, around chimneys and plumbing.
- Install fine screens (1/8 inch hardware cloth) over the tops of rain spouts, vents and openings in water meter/utility boxes.
- From spring to fall, check once or twice a week for bees entering or leaving the same area of your home or yard.
- As a general rule, stay away from all honey bee swarms and colonies. If bees are encountered, get away quickly.

Additionally, CRIT EPO provides these tips for getting rid of unwanted bees:

- Call a local bee farmer/beekeeper.
- Call an exterminator.
- Use sprays that are designed to kill bees.
- Hang a bug zapper in front of the hive may take several days but does work.
- Once they are dead, use a wet-dry vacuum

to remove them. To make sure they are dead, spray bee killer. Make sure to wear protective clothing.

For more information, call CRIT EPO at (928) 662-4336.

Water quality efforts continue

CRIT EPO is working to ensure that the waters on and around the reservation are safe for use and consumption.

Through a federal grant provided by the Environmental Protection Agency, water monitoring is conducted year round to track unsafe levels of harmful substances.

Although the EPO can monitor and work to limit ground and surface water contamination, we all have a responsibility to help protect our most precious resource.

Here are a few things that you can do to help water quality:

- Keep litter and trash out of waterways
 - Clean up any spills that may occur i.e. oil, fertilizers, household cleaners
 - Dispose of household cleaners and used oil properly
 - Fix any fuel or oil leaks on cars and boats
- Working together, we can maintain and improve water quality on our reservation.

Video provides snapshot into Poston Camp's past

An old video discovered by the Arizona Historical Foundation provides a unique look back at the early 1940s on the Reservation and construction of the Poston Internment Camp.

The 16-millimeter film was discovered last year as part of a collection donated to the society by the family of the late Wade Head, a former Poston administrator. It was screened for the Tribal Council in September.

The film, which has no sound, shows in great detail the construction of the Poston camp, as well as aerial shots of the CRIT Reservation.

Jay Cravath of the CRIT Education Department, one of the members of an effort to restore the Poston site, said the film is an incredible find for efforts to document the history of the site, and would be a significant feature in the proposed Poston museum.

"When I first saw the film, my first thought was that some of the former internees should get a chance to see it and maybe provide some commentary for us," he said.

The video, which is thought to have been taken by the Federal Government, shows the construction of the camp as well as the first families arriving at the camp once it was completed. There are no current plans to have regular screenings of the film, but it would likely be shown on a loop or featured in some other way once the museum is built.

In other Poston news, efforts continue to fundraise for the restoration of the camp site.

Members of the Poston Community Alliance, the non-profit group recently founded to coordinate fundraising efforts, met with Congressman Raul Grijalva recently to discuss the



possibility of applying for funding through the National Park Service's "Save America's Treasures" program. According to Ruth Okimoto, a member of the Poston Community Alliance, Grijalva was receptive to the idea and said he will work with the group further to make it happen.

And, legislation that could potentially provide federal funding for the site passed in the U.S. Senate recently. It had passed in the House of Representatives earlier in the year, but because the Senate changed the bill, it must go back to the House for a vote. Supporters are hopeful the house will vote on the bill in December. If passed by the House, it would go to the President for his signature, and then would become law.

The Poston Community Alliance is still seeking funds to move one of the barracks from behind the Lemon Tree Nursery closer to the Poston site. Donations may go to the Poston Community Alliance, c/o Marlene Shigekawa, 51 Mandalay Road, Oakland, CA 94618.



A video provided by the Arizona Historical Foundation documents the construction of the Poston Internment Camp in the 1940s, including aerial shots of the CRIT Reservation and Poston camp (top left), busses of internees unloading (top right) and shots of everyday life at the camp (bottom).

Health programs meet important tribal member needs

Community Health Representative program provides variety of services

The Community Health Representative (CHR) Program is a contracted program from the Indian Health Service to provide quality health care services to CRIT members.

Services include health education, disease prevention and home health care, and also include the following:

- Non-emergency medical transportation within the local community to and from medical facilities, clinics and service providers for routine, non emergency medical services to clients without other means of transportation. The service also includes delivery of such items as medication, supplies and equipment to a patient's home, specifically for elderly, disabled, ill and homebound patients.

- Home health visits, including home health care, conduct client monitoring and work in conjunction with local hospitals and service providers developing discharge plans for home care. This service assists disabled, homebound or bedridden patients with blood pressure checks, blood sugar monitoring, medication delivery and/or household chores or personal care such as bathing or hair washing.

- Out-of-town non-emergency medical transportation by referral from the Parker Indian Health Center.

- Dialysis transportation to and from the Parker or Lake Havasu City dialysis facility, and upon referral, transportation to specialty clinics.

- Infant/child car seat program. Upon referral from the Parker Indian Health Center, infant and child car seats are offered a brief training course is required before distribution.

- Wheelchair program, with short-term lease agreements available for clients utilizing Indian Health Services.

- Optometry Services, including minor eyeglasses repair and coordinating the purchase of glasses through a contracted business for both adults and children.

The mission statement of the CHR Program is to work in conjunction with other community health resources aimed at promoting health education and disease prevention for the local community.

It is the goal of the CHR Program to address health care issues and needs of the Colorado River Indian Tribes through the use of current community medical, educational and program resources to improve community health knowledge and attitudes of the Tribes.

The CHR Program serves all Native American Indians residing on or near the Colorado River Indian Reservation.

For more information concerning the Community Health Representative Program, call (928) 669-8187.

Nutrition program helps women, infants, children

Helping families improve their nutrition and health is the goal of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

WIC also provides nutrition education so that members can learn how to eat better. The program monitors children's growth and development in a variety of ways.

- Breastfeeding Education: WIC supports the breastfeeding Mom and can answer all of her breastfeeding questions.

- Referrals: Tribal members can get referrals for dental, health care, and other social service programs.

- "Fit WIC" sessions for children. Each session includes a story related to nutrition, some enjoyable physical activities and the preparation of a healthy snack.

Eligibility for the WIC program includes pregnant/breastfeeding women, women who just had a baby, infants, and children up to 5 years old. All must meet guidelines for income level. Noon hour and evening clinics are available for working parents.

Call the WIC office at (928) 669-5588 for more information.

Baby contest showcases cute CRIT children



The 34th Annual Native American Baby Contest was held on October 7 during the Native American Days celebration.

The winners were:

Cradleboard Contest (age 0-5 months): 1st Place, Bennett Neil Gonzales, Jr. (son of Rose Drennan and Bennett Gonzales, Sr.); 2nd Place, Ruby Mae Burton (son of Brandon Burton and Twyla Sackett); 3rd Place Alyssa Rae Ameelyenah-Drennan (daughter of Allen Drennan and Helen Ameelyenah).

Infant (6-11 months): 1st Place, Crystal Starr Skye (daughter of Jakey and Debbie Skye); 2nd Place, Liwanu Herbert Keahna (son of Erica Welsh); 3rd Place, Kaylee Lynn Moore (daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Jarrett Moore).

Toddler (12-17 months): 1st Place, Graham Lee Nez (son of Richard Nez and Rondina Carter); 2nd Place, Colleen Jayden Hunter (daughter of Kealy Simon and Michael Hunter); 3rd Place, Emilio Evaristo Salazar

Vasquez (son of Rafaila Vasquez).

Tiny Tot (18-23 months): 1st Place, Ionetta Arres (daughter of Kara Dock and Joe Arres); 2nd Place, Taliyah Smith (daughter of LaToya Welch).

Pee Wee (24-36 months): 1st Place, Leanne Talaswaima (daughter of Carrie Talaswaima and Loren Puggie); 2nd Place, Mariah Joanne Moore (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jarrett Moore); 3rd Place, Leaunna Maeshell Ameelyenah (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Regino Ameelyenah).

The contest would like to thank the following people for their assistance and support of the event: Rena Van Fleet; Ray Aspa, Sr.; J.D. at McDonald's; Isabel DeLeon; Jodi Scott; Berta Hill; Lynette Stevens; Michelle Leivas; Luanna K. Rodriguez; Valerie Welsh-Tahbo; and Gene Fisher.

Congratulations to the winners of the 34th Annual Native American Baby Contest!



(Top right) Contestants in the baby contest await the start of the event. (Top left) Ionetta Arres. (Middle left) Mariah Moore. (Bottom left) K'Lee Yeahquo. (Bottom right) Sofia Rodriquez.

Photos courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo

CANDIDATES,

From Page 7

Virginia Prieta

Hello, I am Virginia Prieta, a 2006 candidate for Tribal Council.

I was born and raised in Parker, and attended Le Pera Elementary promoted in 1989, Parker High School graduated 1993, and Arizona Western College for a few years but didn't graduate. My studies were Liberal Arts/Business Administration.

My work history is over 17 years of left and right. My first job was with at that time J.T.P.A. — Job Training Partnership Act. I worked other jobs throughout town such as a maid, daycare teacher, janitress, and security guard for La Paz County Fair. I also was a security guard for the old and new Indian Health Center for a few years. I've held various jobs within Bluewater Resort and Casino sometimes long or short depending if there was another job with new experience.

The jobs I held consist of: busser, waitress, porter, security officer, Lead Security Officer, Uniform Supervisor, change person, slot attendant, Security Corporal, and surveillance operator. Throughout my years as a security officer, I've acquired special training skills such as: Search Seizure, Physical Control Techniques, Explosive Training, Title 31, Liquor Law, Supervisor Training, Counterfeit, Sexual Harassment, Illegal Drug Training, Basic CPR, Report Writing, Hazardous Materials, and Handcuffing. Right now I am currently unemployed staying at home, fishing, and hanging out with friends. It's been great.

As a tribal member I can see that this Tribe needs to pull together and work as one, not as four tribes. All together we make one tribe called Colorado River Indian Tribes. It needs to start with Council and elders working in **Unity**, to show the people it can be done. And as tribal members we need to come forth and express ones opinion, the Tribal Council are not mind readers. Also the HE/SHE said stuff needs to stop, (no one's perfect). Yesterday is past, but today we carry yesterday's work, and let's make a new decision to put closure on old work.

What would be a great benefit for the tribe is **balance**. For the **new casino** I feel that my past experience would be a benefit for the new project. Also, I would commit myself to serve my very best for all four tribes that make Colorado River Indian Tribes. Reason being it's not who you are, who you know, it's what you know you're capable of...

VIRGINIA PRIETA for Tribal Council 2006.

Merving Scott, Jr.

No statement submitted.

Dale W. Short, Sr.

I am a lifetime resident of the Parker and Tribal community, thorough the years I have become very interested in how our Tribal government has handled the education of our children and how issues pertaining to the betterment of our community is handled.

If elected I will use the people to create change, so by my being the tool you as the membership have to contribute by being more

aggressive in issues that represent you and the future of your children.

There are four issues that I consider very important that I will use for my election platform. They are OUR CHILDREN, EDUCATION, OUR LAND AND TRIBAL RESOURCES and most importantly ACCOUNTABILITY from our Tribal Representatives.

I feel the issue of our children is one of the most important that we should be thinking about in this election. Our education system needs to be reevaluated to provide an education that represents the future of our children, to provide individuality, stability and direction for the child.

Our land needs to be reevaluated as to methods of how we determine is best in using the land for our economic growth. What method is used in the land lease cap that our farmers use in determining what price per acre they pay land owners.

This is important because the present method used in placing lands in tracts only allows the farmers to not negotiate fairly with the land owners who hold the most interest in large and lease tracts.

Accountability has to become our Tribal Representatives most important principle creating open creative community among the membership.

Most important is the people have to demand accountability from their elected officials when there is none. These issues and many other issues I have mentioned are the basic information that I hear the general membership asking for from their present administration. Per capita issues which our tribal membership views other reservations enjoying.

Let me emphasize the important of our upcoming 2006 Tribal Elections, these four seats can represent the beginnings of change in how our government is run.

There needs to be change in our government with short term and long term goals and accountability.

Let's create the plan to create the needed change, become informed on issues such as Sovereignty and what it means to you, the misuse of this issue is a threat to our cultural and traditional way of life and nation.

Sonia Kaye Stone



We must first lead ourselves before we lead others. Before I can exceed the expectations of others; I must first raise the expectations of myself. I must lead for the benefit of the people and our survival; not for the enrichment of myself...

L Long Term Vision
E Experience
A Assertive
D Dedicated
E Enthusiasm
R Responsibility
S Sacrifice
H Humility
I Influence
P Perseverance

I was raised the eldest daughter of Anthony and Viola Stone. Born and raised on

the Reservation, attended local schools and am a graduate of Stewart Indian School of Carson City, Nevada. I attended Haskell JuCo, Chemeketa Community College, Arizona Western College and am finishing up a dual degree at Ottawa University. When completed, I will have earned a BA in Management and Human Resource Management.

I have two grown children, Neola and Derrick, two children still in school, Adrian and Talia and am the proud grandparent of 4 grandchildren, Darrius, Devin, Leighly and Danai.

Currently I work as the Administrator for the Big River Development Enterprises and have been working at Big River since November 2004. I have worked in various positions with the Tribal Government for a combined 21 years that included secretarial, education, alcohol/drug, judicial, executive, real estate, and record keeping. I have six years of Tribal Council experience but a combined total of 18 years of public service:

- Resources Development, Human Resources, and Administrative standing committees and Big River Board of Directors
- Education, Parks & Recreation, LaPaz Parks & Recreation Committees
- TERO, BEB, and Utilities Boards
- Revolving Credit, CRRMC
- Nineteen Tribal Nations Workforce Investment Board
- Election Board Judge District 2
- Cemetery Ad-Hoc Committee, Irataba Society and Indian Days Committee

My vision for the Tribes is the creation of

a diverse economy, sustaining a healthy community, and helping our people to become self sufficient, self reliant and stronger. We have learned healthier families will enhance our reservation and secure the future for generations to come. As one of the nine council members, I will strive to serve the interest of the people, utilizing values inherent of our cultures, way of life, and to create innovative strategies that support financial, educational, and economic opportunities.

Leadership is not about ability alone; it's about taking responsibility and initiating decisions into action. It's ordinary people with extraordinary vision.

On December 2nd, Vote SONIA KAYE STONE. Rock Solid Leadership.

Dennis Welsh, Jr.

I was born & raised on the CRIT reservation. I am the oldest of four children. I was raised by my mother, Thelma Nelson, stepfather Darrell Fisher, and my grandfather Dick Nelson. Today I am a business owner whose married with four children.

I believe that the feather of the CRIT government & our people can be bright if we work hard & maintain our ties within families & community. We must also win our battle against methamphetamine and any other social ills that plague us.

In order to accomplish these things, we must elect leaders who will fight for the rights of the people while demonstrating the values & integrity that is needed to building a strong community.

Get your message out in the MANATABA MESSENGER

✓ Advertise in one of our issues and reach every member of the Colorado River Indian Tribes...at affordable rates.

✓ Submit a story idea or photo for publication.

✓ Write a letter to the editor and let us know what you think.

MANATABA MESSENGER

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We Want To Hear From You!

The *Manataba Messenger* is a publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.
 If you have a question, story idea, suggestion, letter to the editor or anything else you'd like to see in the *Manataba Messenger*, call or write us...

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 (928) 669-1223
 feedback@critonline.com

Also, for a comprehensive listing of key tribal information, back issues of *The Manataba Messenger*, tourism information and other CRIT Tribal information, visit the Tribes' web site:

www.critonline.com

Don't forget the
 February photo contest!

Advertise With Us!

Now you can reach the 3,500 members of the Colorado River Indian Tribes directly. *Manataba Messenger*, the official publication of CRIT, is distributed by mail to all members and at newsstands at prominent locations throughout the Parker area, including the BlueWater Resort & Casino.
 For more information, please call (928) 669-1233 or 669-1223.

"Mega Throw III" coming on January 20

The Ase S'maav Mega Throw III will be held on January 20, 2007 from 1-8 p.m. at the Johnson O'Malley/Career Development Office, located at 13390 N. 1st Avenue in Parker.
 The Mega Throw is a celebration of Mohave culture through the "preservation of the Bird Song and Dance through CRIT Mohave youth," according to organizers of the event.

Bird songs are songs sung socially by Mohaves, and most importantly, sung during funeral rites. The "Mega Throw" is named for the use of the traditional Mohave gourd.
 The popular event includes traditional Mohave music, dancing and dress. Performances include Tribal members and singers from other tribes as well. Invited singers include:

- Larry Hammond (Fort Mohave)
- Mike Mirelez (DC Singers)

Ase S'maav Mega Throw III

DATE/TIME: January 20, 2007 from 1-8 p.m.
 LOCATION: JOM/Career Development Building, 13390 N. 1st Avenue
 FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call Valerie or Stephanie at (928) 669-5548

- Wayne Nelson (Inter-Tribal Singers)
- Guy Trujillo (Kupa Bird Group)
- John Christman (Ill-Sha)
- Junior Cuero (Kume Yaay)
- Farron Owl (Pi Pah Singers)

A potluck dinner will be served if enough people are willing to bring dishes.
 For more information, call Valerie or Stephanie at (928) 669-5548.

RULING,
 From Page 1

The decision by the Court of Appeals is a significant victory for CRIT and its efforts to prevent inappropriate government regulation and preserve tribal sovereignty.
 The ruling said "What is the statutory basis empowering the commission (NIGC) to regulate Class III gaming operations? Finding none, we affirm" the lower court's decision.
 Class III gaming is extensively regulated by both gaming tribes themselves and by state gaming departments as part of gaming compacts.
 "This is an important legal victory our people and for all gaming tribes because it shows that the Federal Government cannot overstep its bounds and regulate areas it are not entitled by law to regulate," said Tribal

Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. "We strongly support proper regulation of Tribal gaming. However, the oversight provided by our Tribal gaming office and the Arizona Department of Gaming are more than adequate, as well as being within the boundaries of the law."
 The decision not only strikes down improper regulation and affirms Tribal sovereignty, it saves tribes valuable resources that can be used for other important programs.
 CRIT's efforts received the support of many other tribes, as well as the National Indian Gaming Association.
 "Today, the Federal Court of Appeals told us what Indian tribes always knew — it is not the NIGC's job to establish federal regulations that override the sovereign decisions of tribes and states made through Class III gaming compacts," said the association's chairman, Ernest Stevens Jr., in a statement after the ruling.



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 your family!
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